

REMARKS

Request for Extension of Time

Applicants, through their undersigned attorney, respectfully request a five -month extension of time for responding to the Communication mailed 29 June 2004 in the above-identified patent application. The time for response is thus extended up to and including 29 December 2004.

Applicant hereby elects Group III claims drawn to methods for detecting the agent for TSE comprising reacting a sample with an antibody raised against SEQ ID NO. 3, or fragments thereof, and kits thereof, classified in class 435, subclass 7.21. The claims pending are 1, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8.

In view of this restriction requirement, applicant retains the right to present claims 1 and 4-8, claims drawn to methods for detecting the agent for TSE comprising reacting a sample with an antibody raised against SEQ ID NOs. 1, 2 and 4, or fragments thereof, and kits thereof, in one or more divisional applications.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees that may be required, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-4650. A duplicate copy of this form is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: 29 DEC 2004

I certify that this Response, Petition, and check are being deposited on December 29, 2004 with the U.S. Postal Service as Express Mail under 37 C.F.R. 1.8 and is addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, Alexandria, Virginia 22313.

William J. Bundren
Signature of Person Mailing Correspondence

William J. Bundren
Typed Name of Person Mailing Correspondence